



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE RESERVE

446th Airlift Wing Public Affairs
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COLONEL WILLIAM N. FLANIGAN

Col. William N. Flanigan is commander of the 446th Airlift Wing, McChord Air Force Base — Washington's only flying Air Force Reserve wing. He is responsible for the organization, training, equipment, and worldwide readiness of a combined Reserve and civilian wing of nearly 2,300 people at McChord. The 446th Airlift Wing flies and supports the C-17 Globemaster III weapons system. Under Colonel Flanigan's command, McChord's Air Force reservists are capable of deploying anywhere in the world, 365 days a year for training, humanitarian efforts or combat.

Colonel Flanigan has served in a variety of positions during his Reserve career, including commander of an expeditionary group at Moron Air Base, Spain, and the last commander of the inactivating 939th Air Refueling Wing in Portland, Ore., before taking his current position as 446th Airlift Wing commander.



Colonel Flanigan began his Air Force career following his commission through the Reserve Officer Training Corps at the University of California in June 1977. He completed undergraduate pilot training in 1978 and began flying as a KC-135A copilot in 1979. After nine years on active duty, Colonel Flanigan separated from active duty and joined the Reserve in May 1986. He joined the air reserve technician program in 1987.

EDUCATION

1977 Bachelor of Science in mathematics and Bachelor of Science in statistics, California State University, Hayward, Calif.
1984 Squadron Officers School, (correspondence)
1985 Air Command and Staff College, (correspondence)
2000 Air War College, (correspondence)

ASSIGNMENTS

1. April 1978 - May 1979, student, undergraduate pilot training, Reese AFB, Texas
2. June 1979 - August 1979, student, KC-135A Combat Crew Training School, Castle AFB, Calif.
3. September 1979 - September 1983, KC-135A copilot/aircraft commander, 916th Air Refueling Squadron, Travis AFB, Calif.
4. October 1983 - May 1984, KC-135A aircraft commander, 912th ARS, Robins AFB, Ga.
5. June 1984 - May 1986, emergency actions officer controller, 19th Air Refueling Wing, Robins AFB, Ga.
6. June 1986 - December 1986, KC-10A pilot, 77th ARS, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.

7. January 1987 - January 1988, chief, Safety Division, 916th Air Refueling Group, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.
8. February 1988 - December 1992, scheduler/assistant chief pilot, 77th ARS, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.
9. January 1993 - December 1993, chief, Operations Training Division, 77th ARS, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.
10. January 1994 - June 1995, air refueling operations manager, 22nd Air Force, Dobbins ARB, Ga.
11. July 1995 - February 1996, chief pilot, 78th ARS, McGuire AFB, N.J.
12. March 1996 - December 1996, chief KC-10A current operations, 514th Air Mobility Wing, McGuire AFB, N.J.
13. January 1997 - December 1997, air operations flight commander, 349th Air Mobility Wing, Travis AFB, Calif.
14. January 1998 - July 1999, chief wing standardization/evaluation KC-10A, 349th Air Mobility Wing, Travis AFB, Calif.
15. August 1999 - September 2000, squadron operations officer, 72nd Air Refueling Squadron, Grissom ARB, Ind.
16. October 2000 - July 2001, operations group commander, 434th Air Refueling Wing, Grissom ARB Ind.
17. August 2001 - February 2002, deputy operations group commander, 434th Air Refueling Wing, Grissom ARB, Ind.
18. February 2002 - June 2004, operations group commander, 434th Air Refueling Wing, Grissom ARB, Ind.
19. March 2003 - July 2003, commander, 494th Air Expeditionary Group, Moron Air Base, Spain
20. June 2004 – September 2007, commander, 939th Air Refueling Wing, Portland IAP, Ore.
21. September 2007 – present, commander, 446th Airlift Wing, McChord AFB, Wash.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Command pilot

Flight Hours: More than 6,500

Aircraft Flown: T-37, T-38, KC-135A/R, KC-10A, C-17

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster

Aerial Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster

Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with eight oak leaf clusters

Combat Readiness Medal with six oak leaf clusters

National Defense Service Medal

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with two service stars

Southwest Asia Service Medal with three service stars

Humanitarian Service Medal

Kuwait Liberation Medal (Saudi Arabian Government)

Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwait Government)

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant	June 1, 1977
First Lieutenant	June 24, 1980
Captain	Dec. 24, 1981
Major	June 24, 1991
Lieutenant Colonel	Nov. 17, 1997
Colonel	March 1, 2002

(Current as of October 2007)